

**Claims**

1. Method for purifying liquid comprising:

5 passing liquid through a purification chamber (19),

activating a UV light source (22) for lighting up, which UV light source contains a gas and is arranged in the purification chamber,

10 illuminating the liquid in the purification chamber with UV light by means of the UV light source, when this is lit up,

**characterized by**

15 heating up the gas to a raised temperature in relation to the surroundings outside the purification chamber, in a standby mode prior to activation for lighting up, by means of a heat-generating element (30) which is arranged outside the UV light source.

20 2. Method according to Claim 1, wherein, in the standby mode, the gas is heated up by passing an electrical current through a resistive heat-generating element (30).

25 3. Method according to Claim 1 or 2, comprising measuring the temperature in the purification chamber (19) and controlling the heating up in relation to the measured temperature.

30 4. Method according to any one of Claims 1-3, wherein, in the standby mode, the gas is heated up to a temperature above 25°C, preferably between 30°C and 40 °C, and thereafter is maintained at essentially this temperature in the continued standby mode and after the UV light source (22) has been lit up.

5. Liquid purifier comprising a purification chamber (19), in which a tube (24) through which water passes and a UV light source (22) which contains a gas are arranged in such a way that the UV light source, when it is shining, illuminates the liquid in the tube with UV light, **characterized by** means for controlled heating up of the gas in the UV light source, which means comprises a heat-generating element (30) which is arranged outside the UV light source.
6. Liquid purifier according to Claim 5, in which the means for controlled heating up of the gas comprises a resistive heat-generating element (30), which is arranged in the purification chamber (19) outside the UV light source (22) for heating up the gas in the UV light source by radiation and convection in the purification chamber (19).
7. Liquid purifier according to Claim 5 or 6, in which the UV light source comprises a fluorescent tube, characterized in that the means for heating up the gas comprises a resistive electrical cable that is arranged around at least part of the outside of the fluorescent tube.
8. Liquid purifier according to any one of Claims 5-7, comprising a device (31) for measuring the temperature in the purification chamber (19), which device is connected to a regulating device for controlling the controlled heating up in relation to the measured temperature.
9. Liquid purifier according to any one of Claims 5-8, in which the purification chamber (19) is heat insulated.